

BUILDING ON THE CAPACITY AND COMMUNITY OF CULTURALLY SPECIFIC ORGANIZATIONS

WORKSHOP TO DO LIST

Silaphone Nhongvongsouthy & Raymond Two Hawks Watson

- Cultural Awareness

- DO acknowledge and identify the differences between the unique characteristics that comprise cultural expressions versus artistic expressions
- DO identify and seek to better understand the role that culture specifically, currently and potentially plays in connecting with, supporting and improving the community overall
 - Economic stimulant
 - Social cohesive
 - Source of community pride
 - Tourism attractant
 - Educational tool
 - Others?
- DON'T assume that your personal cultural norms and values are representative of the norms and values of other cultures

- Relationship Building

- DO identify the unique cultural resources and attractants that comprise your community
- DO identify the specific cultural communities and practitioners that comprise your community
- DO seek to understand the unique challenges that your community's specific cultural communities and practitioners face
- DO seek to raise awareness about and support for the interests and challenges that are specifically expressed by cultural communities and practitioners
- DON'T assume that you are aware of and/or have relationships with all of the cultural communities comprising your community
- DON'T assume that you can identify or task one individual to represent an entire cultural community
- DON'T assume that you are able to speak on behalf of a cultural community if you are not a member of that particular cultural community
- DON'T add to, borrow from or attempt to enhance the expressions of cultural communities and practitioners without their specific approval

- Support & Investment

- DO view and value the cultural sector and economy as separate and distinct elements from the arts sector and economy
- DO proactively seek out opportunities to engage with, support and cultivate the initiatives, programs and projects that cultural communities and practitioners are currently implementing or developing
- DO seek direct advisement and direction from cultural communities and practitioners themselves on how to most appropriately support their efforts and address their concerns
- DO support cultural communities and practitioners in the specific manners that they suggest and require
- DO proactively seek opportunities to involve cultural practitioners and communities in current community based events, programs and initiatives
- DO compensate Cultural practitioners at a pay rate commensurate with Artists
- DO proactively seek to employ representatives from cultural communities in gate-keeper positions to ensure more and better access to support and funding opportunities for cultural communities and practitioners
- DON'T assume that current resources and support strategies for Arts & Culture adequately address or support the unique and specific needs or goals of the cultural sector and economy